

Serial No. 09/684,729

a housing at least partially enclosing the input shaft;

a bearing interposed between the housing and the input shaft and supporting the input shaft for rotation about the axis, the bearing having an inner race engaging the input shaft and an outer race, the outer race comprising a continuously extending cylindrical surface;

the housing having at least one series of axially spaced, annular ribs that at least partially extend around the axis of the input shaft and around the outer race of the bearing, axially adjacent annular ribs being separated by an annular groove; and

a gasket made of resilient material interposed between the outer race of the bearing and the ribs, the resilient material of the gasket comprising a tubular member encircling and engaging the cylindrical surface of the outer race of the bearing, the resilient material of the gasket having a cylindrical inner surface and an outer surface, the inner surface engaging the cylindrical surface of the outer race of the bearing, and the outer surface engaging the ribs of the housing, the resilient material of the gasket having portions interdigitated with the ribs of the housing to resist relative axial movement between the gasket and the housing.